

IN THE CLAIMS

Amend Claims 1-12 as follows and add Claims 13-20:

1. (Currently amended) Doctor or coater blade, in particular for use as wiping, scraper and/or cleaning tool in production of paper pulp and/or paper in different stages of the production process, ~~consisting of~~ comprising an edge-provided strip of steel, the edge portion of which has been provided with a wear-resistant coating, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein

the edge portion of the blade is coated with surface-reinforcing coating applied by ~~means of~~ laser technique, so that the metallurgical binding is present between said wear-resistant coating and the steel strip, and ~~that~~ the edge portion has a hardness of more than 1000 HV.

2. (Currently amended) Doctor or coater blade according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the wear-resistant coating has a level of surface hardness of at least 850 HV.

3. (Currently amended) Doctor or coater blade according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the edge portion of the blade has a surface layer applied by ~~means of~~ laser coating, the thickness of which layer constitutes 5-15% of the thickness of the blade.

4. (Currently amended) Doctor or coater blade according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the edge portion of the blade has a surface-reinforcing portion applied by ~~means of~~ laser coating or laser impregnation, the thickness of which portion constitutes 5-15% of the thickness of the blade.

5. (Currently amended) Doctor or coater blade according to claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that~~ wherein the steel is a carbon steel with a chemical composition in % by weight being 0[,]8-1[,]2% of C, preferably about 1% of C, 0[,]20-0[,]35% of Si, 0[,]35-0[,]50% of Mn, maximum 0[,]02% of P, maximum 0[,]01% of S, with Fe as balance and the content of some additional element in the periodic system in contents below 0[,]5%.

6. (Currently amended) Method for the manufacture of a doctor or coater blade according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1-5, characterized in that~~ wherein a material manufactured from steel is first rolled out and edge-treated to ~~having~~ have an edge portion formed along one of the edges, ~~and that~~ said edge portion then is provided with a surface-reinforcing layer applied by ~~means of~~ laser technique, in such a way that a metallurgical binding arises between said layer and the subjacent steel substrate, and ~~that~~ the edge treatment is provided in the way that the steel substrate is subjected to a laser treatment during supply of powder at such a supply of heat that the powder is fused with the steel substrate while forming an atomic/metallurgical binding.

7. (Currently amended) Method for the manufacture of a doctor or coater blade according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1-5, characterized in that~~ wherein a material manufactured from steel is first rolled out and edge-treated to ~~having~~ have an edge portion formed along one of the edges, ~~and that~~ said edge portion then is provided with a surface-reinforcing layer applied by ~~means of~~ laser technique, in such a way that a metallurgical binding arises between said layer and the subjacent steel substrate, and ~~that~~ the edge treatment is provided in the way

that the steel substrate is subjected to a laser impregnation and recovery, material particles of a ceramic material penetrating into the surface melt by means of laser, so that an atomic/metallurgical binding arises.

8. (Currently amended) Method according to claim ~~claims 6 or 7~~, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the supplied powder essentially contains aluminum oxide.

9. (Currently amended) Method according to claim ~~claims 6 or 7~~, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the supplied material essentially contains stellite.

10. (Currently amended) Method according to claim ~~7-9~~, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the impregnation is carried out in the way that carbides and nitrides, such as TiC, NbC and/or TiN, are supplied to the steel substrate.

11. (Currently amended) Method according to claim ~~6 any one of claims 6-10~~, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the chemical composition of the steel in % by weight is 0[,]8-1[,]2% of C, preferably about 1% of C, 0[,]20-0[,]35% of Si, 0[,]35-0[,]50% of Mn, maximum 0[,]02% of P, maximum 0[,]01% of S, with Fe as balance and the content of some additional element in the periodic system in contents below 0[,]5%.

12. (Currently amended) Method according to claim ~~6 any one of claims 6-11~~, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the wear-resistant coating has a level of surface hardness of more than 850 HV.

13. (New) Doctor or coater blade according to claim 2, wherein the steel is a carbon steel with a chemical composition in % by weight being 0.8-1.2% of C, preferably about 1% of C, 0.20-0.35% of Si, 0.35-0.50% of Mn, maximum 0.02%

of P, maximum 0.01% of S, with Fe as balance and the content of some additional element in the periodic system in contents below 0.5%.

14. (New) Doctor or coater blade according to claim 3, wherein the steel is a carbon steel with a chemical composition in % by weight being 0.8-1.2% of C, preferably about 1% of C, 0.20-0.35% of Si, 0.35-0.50% of Mn, maximum 0.02% of P, maximum 0.01% of S, with Fe as balance and the content of some additional element in the periodic system in contents below 0.5%.

15. (New) Doctor or coater blade according to claim 4, wherein the steel is a carbon steel with a chemical composition in % by weight being 0.8-1.2% of C, preferably about 1% of C, 0.20-0.35% of Si, 0.35-0.50% of Mn, maximum 0.02% of P, maximum 0.01% of S, with Fe as balance and the content of some additional element in the periodic system in contents below 0.5%.

16. (New) Method according to claim 7, wherein the supplied powder essentially contains aluminum oxide.

17. (New) Method according to claim 7, wherein the supplied material essentially contains stellite.

18. (New) Method according to claim 7, wherein the chemical composition of the steel in % by weight is 0.8-1.2% of C, preferably about 1% of C, 0.20-0.35% of Si, 0.35-0.50% of Mn, maximum 0.02% of P, maximum 0.01% of S, with Fe as balance and the content of some additional element in the periodic system in contents below 0.5%.

19. (New) Method according to claim 7, wherein the wear-resistant coating has a level of surface hardness of more than 850 HV.

20. (New) Method according to claim 16, wherein the impregnation is carried out in the way that carbides and nitrides, such as TiC, NbC and/or TiN, are supplied to the steel substrate.